**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/693,398
Filing Date	10/24/2003
First Named Inventor	Lee A. Core
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	106586.172 US2

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 |

- | |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Petition |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ |

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| - Postcard |

Remarks

1. Form PTO-1449 (1 page)
2. 4 Publications
3. Copy of International Search Report

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Michael A. Diener
Signature	
Date	04/06/2004

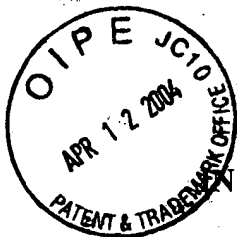
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Tina M. Dougal		
Signature		Date	04/06/2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

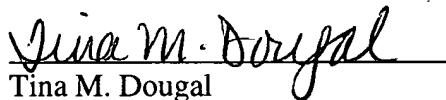


THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lee A. Core
Serial No.: 10/693,398
Filing Date: October 24, 2003
Title: Expandable Sheath Tubing
Examiner: Unknown
Group Art Unit: 3731
Attorney Docket No.: 106586.172 US2

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 6, 2004.


Tina M. Dougal

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 1.97(e)(1)**

Sir:

Applicant and his legal representatives hereby make of record on the attached PTO Form-1449 the following publications which are known to them and considered warranting disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and 1.97-98. Copies of the publications are enclosed.

Applicant states under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that the publications provided herewith were cited in an International Search Report issued in connection with a counterpart Patent Cooperation Treaty application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The submission of these publications does not constitute a representation by the Applicant that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed publications are material or constitute "prior art." Applicant reserves

the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed publications, should one or more of the publications be applied against the claims of the present application.

No fee is believed to due in connection with the filing of this Statement. However, in the event a fee is due, please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 6, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Diener", written over a horizontal line.

Michael A. Diener
Registration No. 37,122
Attorney for Applicant

Hale and Dorr LLP
60 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02109
Tel: (617) 526-6454
Fax: (617) 526-5000

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

of

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/693,398
Filing Date	10/24/2003
First Named Inventor	Lee A. Core
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	106586.172 US2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 2002/0032459	03/14/2002	Horzewski et al.	
		US- 4,840,623	06/20/1989	Quackenbush	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP 0 839 549	05/06/1998	Cordis Corp.		
		WO 98/29026	07/09/1998	Imagyn Medical		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.